

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 03567 060522Z

ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-07 SOE-02 DODE-00
DOE-11 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 PM-05 USIA-06 AID-05
TRSE-00 STR-07 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00 FRB-03 /135 W
-----122996 060527Z /15

P R 060501Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5818

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 3567

HONG KONG FOR BLOOM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, ETRD, JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE FEELER ON ADVANCE PAYMENT FOR ENRICHMENT
SERVICES

1. SUMMARY: ECON AFFAIRS DIRGEN TESHIMA IS SEEKING
"INFORMAL" U.S. REACTION TO POSSIBLE JAPANESE OFFER
TO PREPAY FOR URANIUM ENRICHMENT SERVICES. END SUMMARY.

2. NEW DIRGEN FOR ECON AFFAIRS AT FOREIGN MINISTRY,
TESHIMA SUMMONED E/C MIN MARCH 3 FOR REACTION TO HIS
"PERSONAL" IDEA THAT JAPANESE UTILITY COMPANIES
MIGHT PREPAY FOR URANIUM ENRICHMENT SERVICES
PROVIDED BY USG. NOTING THAT US HAD NOT BEEN WILLING
TO SELL URANIUM WHEN SUBJECT WAS RAISED LAST YEAR,
TESHIMA REFERRED TO 1972 PRECEDENT FOR \$320 MILLION
ADVANCE PAYMENT FOR ENRICHMENT SERVICES AND
WONDERED WHETHER US WOULD NOW APPRECIATE SIMILAR
ACTION.

3. E/C MIN RESPONDED THAT ON ECONOMIC GROUNDS
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US HAD NOT ATTACHED MUCH SIGNIFICANCE TO ADVANCE
STOCKPILING PURCHASES THAT JAPAN WOULD BE UNDERTAKING
IN ANY CASE OVER TIME, BUT UNDERTOOK TO SEEK
"INFORMAL" REACTION TO TESHIMA'S "PERSONAL" IDEA.

4. TESHIMA WOULD NOT BE DRAWN OUT ON WHAT TERMS
MIGHT BE OFFERED AND WHETHER GOJ ENVISIONED ESCALATOR

CLAUSE IN CASE PRICES CHANGED OVER TERM OF CONTRACT.

5. EMBASSY COMMENT: WE ASSUME FOREIGN MINISTRY MAY BE SEEKING TO SWEETEN PACKAGE THAT CURRENT IMPORT PROMOTION MISSION WILL ANNOUNCE AT END OF ITS US VISIT. FROM SHORT-RUN PUBLIC RELATIONS POINT, ANNOUNCEMENT OF MAJOR PREPAYMENT WOULD OBVIOUSLY BE HELPFUL. IT MIGHT ALSO BE USED IN RELATION TO ELECTRIC POWER GENERATING ASPECT OF IKEDA MISSION, ALTHOUGH IT OF COURSE IS NOT DIRECTLY GERMANE.

6. IN ADDITION, IT WOULD HELP SECURE LONG-RANGE TIES TO U.S. AS SUPPLIER OF ENRICHMENT SERVICES, CLEARLY TO OUR BENEFIT.

7. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE PROMPT CLEARED GUIDANCE WITH WHICH TO RESPOND TO TESHIMA.
MANSFIELD

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NNN

Message Attributes

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